GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:791
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
AVAILABILITY OF IRRIGATION FACILITIES
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether irrigation facility is available only to 39 per cent of agricultural land;

(b) if so, the factors attributed thereto;

(c) the details of irrigation projects lying pending alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) the expenditure incurred on each of the pending project till date; and

(e) the steps taken to provide irrigation facilities on all the agricultural land?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Yes, Sir. According to the Land Use Statistics for 2003-04 compiled by Ministry of Agriculture, the net sown are in the country is estimated to be 14.09 crore hectare and the net irrigated area is 5.51 crore hectare i.e.39.10%. The gross irrigated area has been estimated to be 7.68 crore hectare.

(b) Considerable part of the agricultural land remains rainfed in view of agro-ecological diversity, vast variation in the availability of water and topographical features.

(c) & (d) As per the information provided by the State Government, it is estimated that by the end of Tenth Plan, 477 irrigation projects will remain incomplete and will spill over to Eleventh Plan. The details are annexed. The important resons for delay in completion of the projects are inadequate provisions of funds in State budget, delay in transfer of funds to the executing agencies and delay in land acquisition etc. The cost incurred so far on the above said ongoing project has been estimated to be about Rs. 12,2896 crore.

(e) Irrigation being a state subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the State Governments as per their own priority. However, Government of India provides central assistance to the State Governments for completion of on-going irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). Further, a pilot scheme titled `National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture` has been approved by Government of India in January 2005. Government of India also provides support under centrally sponsored scheme for Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) with a view to bridging the gap between irrigation potential created and potential utilized. The Government has taken several measures to improve the irrigation facilities. The National Comman Minimum Programme of UPA Government provides for time bound completion of the on-going irrigation projects and also stipulates step ping up of public investment in irrigation in a significant manner. Irrigation is an important component of Bharat Nirman Programme which stipulates creation of 1 crores hectare of irrigation potential during 2005-09. Further, the AIBP criteria have been relaxed and procedures simplified to cover more projects under this programme. The Government has also constituted a `National Rainfed Area Authority` with a view to address the problems of rainfed areas and for sustainable development of such areas. Further, the draft Approach Paper for XI Plan also proposes to double the rate of growth to irrigation and to improve water management, rainwater harvesting and watershed development.

Annexed

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) & (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 791 TO BE ANSWRED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.11.2006

Details of the projects likely to Spillover to Eleventh Five Year Plan

	Major	Medium	ERM	Total
Andhra Pradesh	26	19	6	51
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	2	2	2	6
Bihar	10	2	5	17

Chhattisgarh	4	7	1	12
Goa	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	3	15	11	29
Haryana	1	0	1	2
Himachal Pradesh	1	3	0	4
Jammu & Kashmir	0	6	4	10
Jharkhand	6	16	0	22
Karnataka	15	27	5	47
Kerala	3	4	2	9
Madhya Pradesh	18	8	5	31
Maharashtra	53	83	3	139
Manipur	2	1	4	7
Meghalya	0	1	0	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	1	0	1
Orissa	7	10	14	31
Punjab	1	0	2	3
Rajasthan	2	7	2	11
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamilnadu	0	2	3	5
Tripura	0	3	0	3
Uttar Pradesh	9	0	13	22
Uttaranchal	1	0	0	1
West Bengal	2	5	6	13
TOTAL	166	222	89	477